



RUMBLINGS

FOR SAFE ROADS, LOADS AND DRIVERS — ACROSS BRITISH COLUMBIA
FORESTRY TRUCKSAFE



BC Forest Safety Council

○ PRINTABLE VERSION

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Safety in Forestry Transportation TruckSafe Rumbings is published biweekly to keep you informed on what is happening in forest hauling safety in BC. Call MaryAnne Arcand to provide input or get the news out on best practices and concerns in the industry.

Editor's Note: *until the Forestry TruckSafe position has been filled, MaryAnne Arcand will continue to edit and produce Rumbings. We may have a couple guest editors over the next couple of months, so stay tuned for different perspectives and different 'voices'. Thanks*



Around and around and around we go!

This week saw the opening of a controversial “roundabout” in Prince George, at an intersection mostly used by industrial vehicles. The Cameron Street Bridge was reopened on Monday, after a 4 year closure which saw logging and chip trucks, freight trucks and lowbeds mingling with heavy city and residential traffic and going through residential neighborhoods, sometimes taking out signs or windshields along the way. The bridge approach from the north side has been redesigned as a roundabout, which is confusing for many drivers and raising concerns about the challenges of driving the narrow circle for B-trains, especially when the road narrows up in the winter due to snow. There are also questions about “spinning out” in the winter because of the built up slopes leading to the circle itself. Now that it's open, we'll just have to wait and see.

The Ministry of Transportation's website states:

“The “modern” roundabout has come into favour recently as an effective means of controlling traffic at intersections. Roundabouts more effectively minimize delay and have a better safety performance than stop controlled intersections when it comes to high severity collisions.”

According to engineers, these circular intersections improve road safety, manage increased traffic demand, and help improve air quality by eliminating unnecessary stops and idling. In order to make the right-turn entry into the roundabout (the traffic flow is counter clockwise), traffic has to slow right down, or almost stop, making it safer for all users.

The Ministry's website has several animated demonstrations on how to use a roundabout, whether you're a driver, pedestrian or cyclist – worth looking at. Go to <http://www.th.gov.bc.ca/popular-topics/roundabouts/roundabouts.htm>

And here are their tips for sharing a roundabout with large trucks:

“Here are two things you should know about trucks. First, very large trucks can pass through roundabouts. Large trucks will need both lanes to make wide turns, and they can use the truck aprons (concrete area on the outside

of the central islands) for additional space. Second, other drivers need to give trucks plenty of room. You should expect trucks to use both lanes; so do not get beside a truck in a roundabout--they may not be able to see you."

Given that many of the trucks using the new roundabout are Chip hauling B-trains, this is good advice!

Cell Phone Ban officially on the way

As we've mentioned over the past few months, the government will be putting cell phone restrictions in place in the coming legislative session. This week's speech from the throne made the announcement official. Solicitor General Kash Heed had this to say, "There are lots of distractions when you're driving, and we need to limit those distractions...We have to ensure we have proper policies in place."

The proposed legislation will recommend a complete ban on cell phone use while driving, Heed said, with an exception for experienced drivers using hands-free devices. A complete ban on text messaging will also be imposed.

New drivers in the graduated licensing program will be barred from using all use, including handheld devices, hands-free devices and any form of text messaging.

Six other provinces already have legislation restricting cell phone use in place. On August 12, Alberta announced it was developing legislation that was not limited to phone use, focusing instead on any distracting electronic device used in cars.

CCMTA issues e-logbook enforcement protocol 08/26/2009 (from Today's Trucking.com)

As part of ongoing deliberations on the enforcement of electronic logbooks, [Canadian Council of Motor Transport Administrator](#) member jurisdictions clarified an important protocol during meetings earlier this summer. BC is a member of the CCMTA.

"Officers encountering an electronic recording device-generated daily log shall request the driver to show the required information on the display of the unit and attempt to determine compliance," CCMTA stated. "If the information is not understandable, officers may request a driver to surrender handwritten daily logs."

However, drivers will be given the opportunity to send electronically via fax or email a printed document to the inspection station prior to having to complete and surrender handwritten daily logs. Any printed document received must be signed by the driver attesting to its accuracy.

SHARP "Human Factors" Conference free for all SAFE Co's The SHARP conference, "SHARPen Your Safety Knowledge – Understanding the Human Factor" in Prince George Sept 24 and 25 is free for all SAFE Certified companies. This 2 day event also qualifies as Safety Training for Safety Committee members, meeting your WorkSafeBC requirements. [Click here to access the conference program outline and registration.](#)

October's CrossRoads "Fit to Drive" Road Safety Conference is a "must"

CrossRoads Conference 2009 is a "must attend" for any individual, non profit, employer or employee, business owner or government agency. And there's no charge to attend. Motor vehicle crashes are among the biggest causes of death in the oil patch, forestry, logistics and service industries.

This year's CrossRoads Conference theme is "**Fit to Drive**", looking at the various human conditions that contribute to motor vehicle crashes, including:

- Aging & youth
- Chronic diseases and health issues
- Impairment
- Fatigue
- Stress
- Driver Inattention
- Substance use - prescription and otherwise
- Wellness and lifestyle

- The Things we Do in our Vehicles!
- Attitude and Risk Taking

WorkSafeBC will be presenting a session on Human Factors in terms of injury prevention, and dynamic speaker Dr Brendan Adams will be there to talk turkey about alcohol and drugs. We'll also have a session on the legal liabilities of employers whose employees drive for work, which applies to business, industry, school districts, health authorities, social services, local government fleets, and government agencies that provide field services. As well, there will be up-to-date information on road safety initiatives being taken in the trucking industry, on BC's resource roads, and in the business community.

For further info, or to register, go to www.roadhealth.org

Good job, guys!

Made a road run this week through the back roads west of Quesnel, and saw a fair bit of logging activity (great to see). Graders and water trucks were out in some places (badly needed!), but it is dry, dusty and rough. Kudos to all the truckers and industry pickups we came across – headlights on, safe speeds, on the right side of the road. CD Lee, Coyote, Specialty Logging, Inwood Trucking, Blackwater Timber, Excel, West Fraser, MoFR, and HMC- Good job guys!

Your Voice

The latest truck rumblings was great, You did a great job. It was good that You wrote about health issues. Health issues are some thing that is never never discussed till it is too late. Again Thank You
GS

Upcoming Events

Sept 24 -25 SHARP Conference, Prince George
Oct 20– 21 CrossRoads “Fit to Drive” Road Safety Conference, Prince George
June 3-5/10 Resources Expo, Prince George

If you know someone who would be interested in receiving TruckSafe Rumblings, please forward this email along. Signing up is easy. Just [click here](#) and you will be taken to our new sign up page. If you know someone who'd be interested but doesn't have email, forward their fax number to us at arcand@bctrucksafe.org

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